

Stage 1 community engagement report

Borough of Queenscliffe Climate Emergency Response Plan



Borough of Queenscliffe
Queenscliff & Point Lonsdale, Victoria, Australia

Contents

Introduction.....	1
Executive summary of results	1
Community survey	2
Background.....	2
Results.....	2
Demographics	2
Defining the problem	2
Concerns and worries	3
Priorities and actions	4
Interest in zero carbon and renewable initiatives	9
Other notes on the results.....	9
School student workshop.....	10
Appendix 1: Survey data.....	18

Introduction

This report contains the results of the first round of engagement in the development of the Borough of Queenscliffe’ Climate Emergency Response Plan. It contains results from two sources: a community survey open to everyone in the Borough of Queenscliffe, and a workshop held with students from primary schools in the Borough. This report will form a key source of information for the next stage of engagement, in which a panel of 30 local residents will help create the first draft of the Climate Emergency Response Plan. This report will also be released to the public.

Executive summary of results

Survey respondents were significantly concerned about the impacts of climate change, and are primarily motivated to reduce its impacts on people (including future generations) and the natural environment of the Borough. School students also expressed a desire to be active participants in a climate emergency response.

Renewable energy investment was consistently the most popular project suggestion with both survey respondents and school students. This project suggestion ranked highly in both prompted and unprompted responses, and regardless of who was taking responsibility for the action (both Council-led and community-led renewable energy initiatives were highly popular). Changes to waste management and behaviour also ranked highly for both groups among suggested actions.

Survey respondents also tended to feel the plan should be ambitious, setting targets for Council and the community to become zero-carbon within a decade.

Community survey

Background

Over a three-week period in October 2020, 346 respondents participated in an online survey as part of the initial engagement stage in the development of the Borough of Queenscliffe's Climate Emergency Response Plan. The survey consisted of a large number of open-ended and guided questions that asked respondents to share their ideas and views on what should be included in the Plan.

The survey's purpose was to gain a general understanding of the Borough community's priorities for the development of a Climate Emergency Response Plan. The results of this survey will be presented to a panel of community members, who will use the data collected to shape and inform the development of the draft response plan.

The survey was advertised widely, including on brochures delivered to households throughout the Borough, through a media release, on social media, through newspaper and digital advertising, on Council's website and through community groups. It was complemented by a workshop held with school students across the Borough, the results of which are reported on separately.

Results

Demographics

Survey respondents were, on average, much older and slightly more female than the population of the Borough as a whole. **While residents aged 55 and over make up just under 58% of the Borough's population, they formed nearly 70% of survey respondents.** Fewer than 6% of survey respondents were aged under 35 years. Further, while 54% of the Borough's population is made up of women, 59% of respondents to the survey identified as women.

The vast majority of respondents were full-time residents of the Borough of Queenscliffe.

Defining the problem

Respondents were asked what the term 'climate emergency' meant to them. Participants shared a diverse range of ideas in response to this question, but the most unifying theme was that a climate emergency necessitates taking action as soon as possible, featuring in 40% of all responses. Some sample comments include:

"We need to act and act now. This is an issue for now and the future there are no second chances."

"An urgent need to take action to avert the global climate crisis. We must act now and make meaningful change in the next few years or it will be too late."

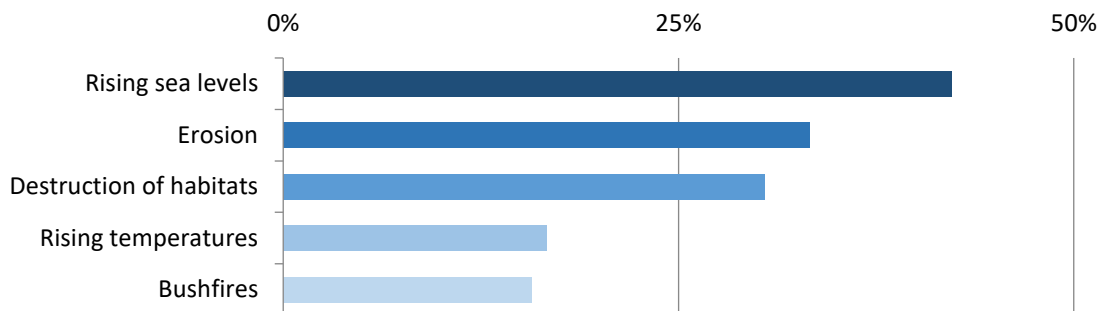
"To me it means that climate needs to be considered foremost in everything we do in our daily lives, businesses, community activities."

Concerns and worries

Survey participants were asked a number of questions regarding their concerns about how climate change would impact our community. While respondents listed a diverse range of concerns, the most common concerns listed *without* prompting were impacts on our natural environment. Rising sea levels, erosion and habitat destruction were mentioned the most frequently in comments responding to this question.

What are you most concerned about in terms of the impacts of climate change in the Borough?

(This graph shows the top 5 most commonly-listed concerns by percentage of all comments received. Note that responses could cross more than one category.)

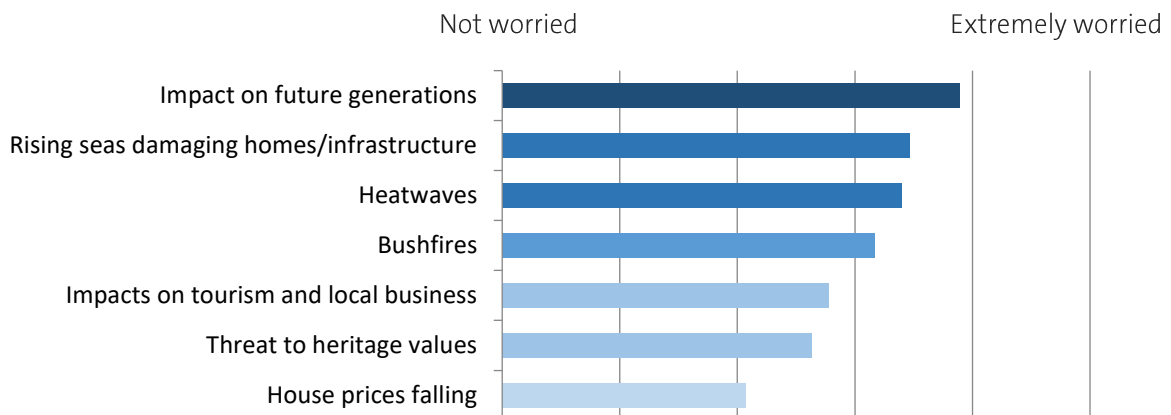


These responses align with the results of an earlier question, in which respondents were asked what they most valued about living the Borough. Responses mentioning the proximity of the beach topped the list, at 61% of all responses.

Other questions asking after participants' concerns were prompted, with participants able to rate their level of concern against a set of issues. While concerns about impacts on our natural environment remained significant, responses to this question indicated a higher level of concern for the impacts on people, particularly future generations.

How worried are you about the following Climate Emergency risks for the Borough?

(This graph shows the weighted average of all responses by category. The further the bar extends to the right, the higher the average degree of worry expressed.)



In sum, most respondents are concerned that climate change will impact the things they value most about the Borough – its unique natural environments and the people who live here.

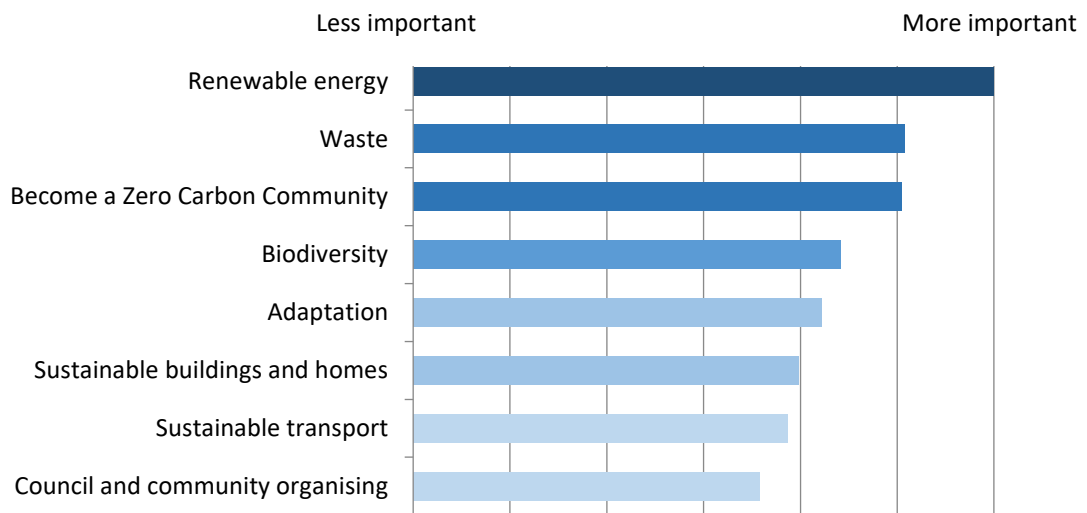
Priorities and actions

Respondents were asked a range of questions about what kinds of actions the Climate Emergency Response Plan should feature. Investment in renewable energy repeatedly surfaced as the most popular suggestion, followed by changes to waste management and behaviour.

When prompted to rank different priorities from most to least important, respondents tended to feel renewable energy investment should be the highest priority action. This was followed by changes to waste management and investment in becoming a zero-carbon community.

We've identified the following potential priority areas for action. Please rank them from 1 (most important/urgent) to 8 (least important/urgent):

(This graph shows the weighted average of all responses by category. The further the bar extends to the right,



Participants then had the opportunity to list the three most important actions Council could take, the three most important actions the community as a whole could take and the three most important actions they as an individual could take in response to the climate emergency. Responses to these questions were unprompted, and are detailed over the coming pages.

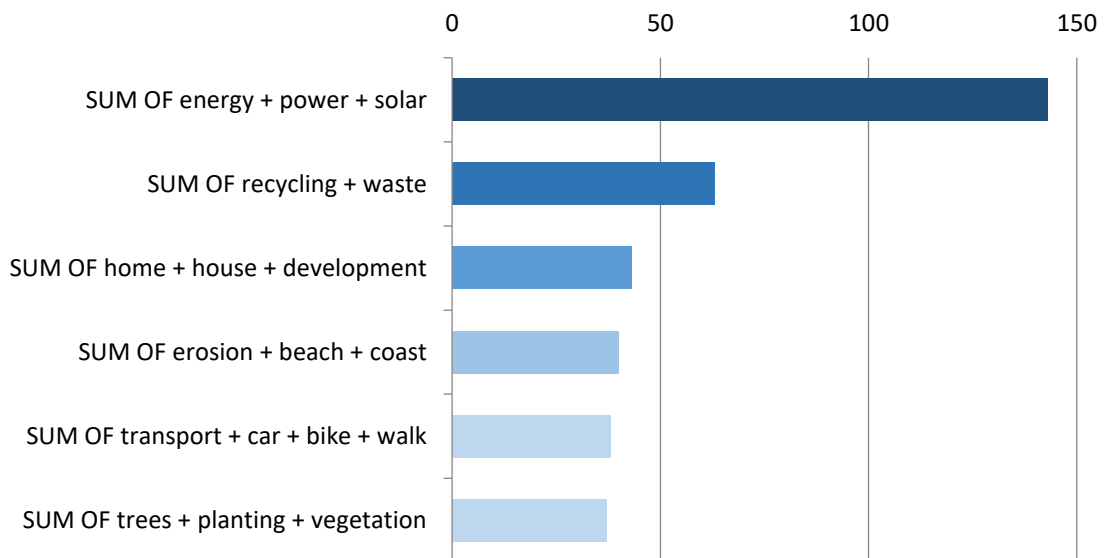
What should Council do?

Respondents made 509 individual suggestions for actions Council could take in response to the climate emergency. This is the fewest number of suggestions of the three categories, indicating respondents were more confident nominating project ideas members of the community could undertake. While these can be difficult to categorise perfectly, key word counts have been used to gain some insight into the kinds of projects most commonly suggested.

By far the most common suggestion was investment in renewable energy or green power projects (143 key word mentions), which dominated the responses received by a large margin. This was followed by projects to expand recycling or waste programs (63 key word mentions).

What are the top three things you think Council should do to respond to the Climate Emergency?

(This graph shows the number of times particular words appeared in responses. Some words have been grouped together where they relate to similar topics.)



A selection of suggestions from respondents includes:

“Explore renewable energy through power purchase agreement for council and community.”

“Update public bins for easier separation of recycling.”

“Reduce carbon footprint - let’s try and get everyone on solar, composting etc.”

“Allow/promote more controlled burns in the area.”

“Audit approach to planning, other regulations to ensure property owners' are encouraged - and not unnecessarily prohibited - from optimising energy efficiency in the design and use of their properties.”

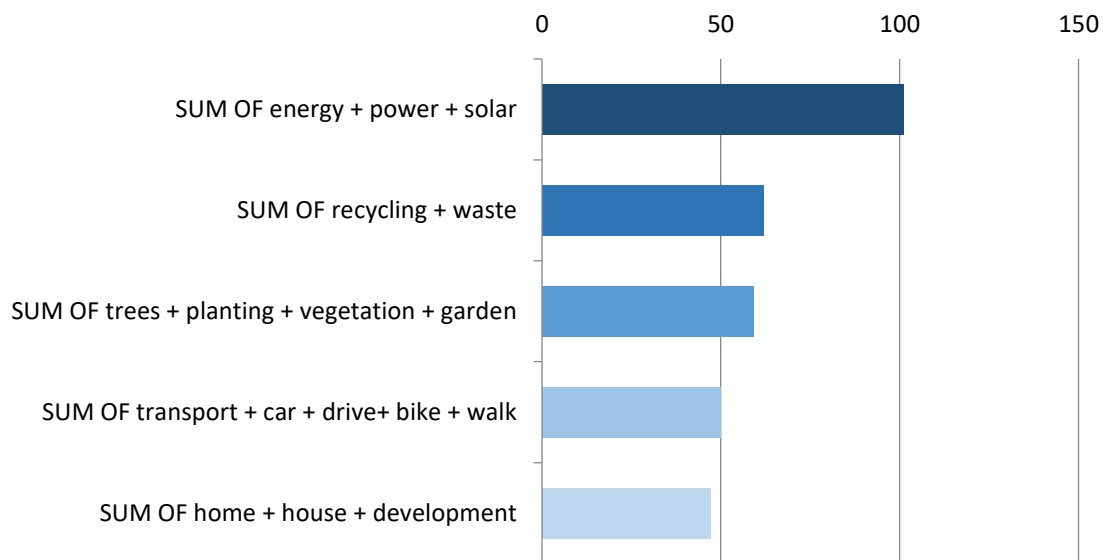
What should the community do?

Respondents listed 670 individual suggestions for actions the community could take in response to the climate emergency.

Suggestions in this category were more mixed. While renewable energy and waste initiatives topped the list again, respondents also placed a high priority on members of the community taking the lead on tree planting or gardening (59 key word mentions) and behaviour change in the way residents travel (50 key word mentions).

What are the top three things you think our community should do to respond to the Climate Emergency?

(This graph shows the number of times particular words appeared in responses. Some words have been grouped together where they relate to similar topics.)



A random selection of suggestions from respondents includes:

“Get together and initiate community projects eg food gardens.”

“Reduce household waste and increase recycling.”

“Limit our use of fossil fuels.”

“Form cooperatives to reduce the costs of adopting more environmentally friendly initiatives eg. community solar power and batteries.”

“Community funded wind power e.g. Daylesford”

“Stop driving so much! Walk & ride. Shop local & send your children to the closest school.”

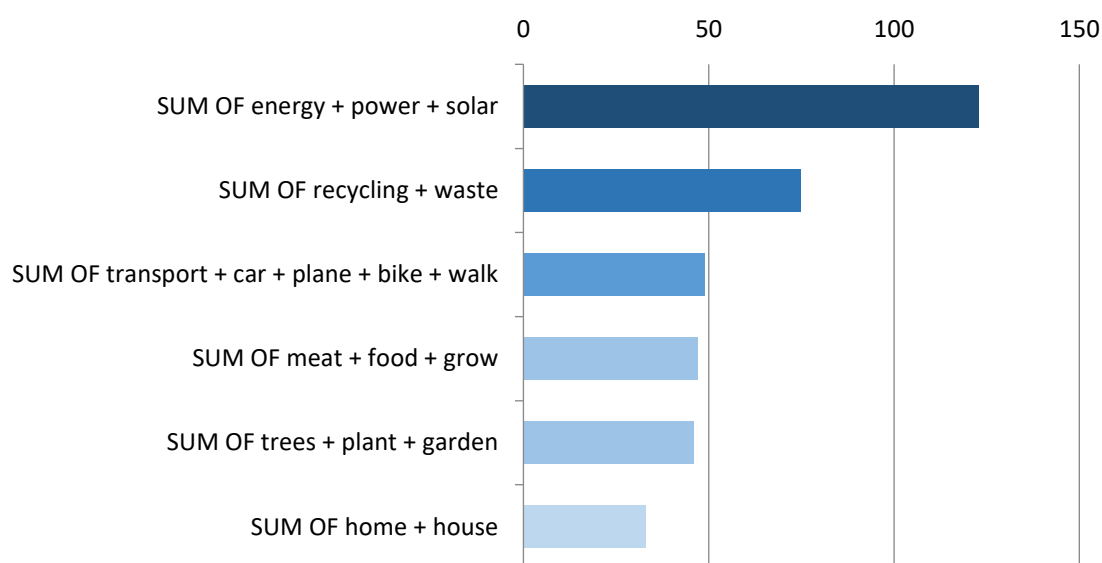
What should you personally do?

Respondents listed 678 individual suggestions for actions they personally could take in response to the climate emergency.

Suggestions in this category still saw renewable energy and waste projects top the list, but newly popular suggestions include changes to behaviour around food (47 key word mentions).

What are the top three things you believe you can personally do to respond to the Climate Emergency?

(This graph shows the number of times particular words appeared in responses. Some words have been grouped together where they relate to similar topics.)



A random selection of suggestions from respondents includes:

“Growing my own food and buying local sustainably produced food and other products.”

“Consider the pro and cons of replacing my vehicle once electrical recharging is from renewable energy and available.”

“We limit our waste to one bag per week and we are working to improve that.”

“Plant trees, propagate native plants, encourage others to grow indigenous plants.”

“Support fee rises necessary to implement sea level rise protection.”

“Walk the talk and reduce my emissions footprint as much as possible and then encourage my friends and family to do the same.”

What is your big idea to positively address the Climate Emergency in the Borough?

Responses to this question were much more diverse. While energy-based suggestions remained the most popular (117 key word mentions) other results were much more mixed, and frequently included more than one suggestion across multiple categories. A full copy of responses to this questions is available in Appendix 1 of this report. A selection of sample comments include:

"Sea walls etc to stop erosion on our beaches. Better drainage etc to try and prevent flooding. Let's get every house on solar "

"Accept that the BoQ cannot change the future alone, so design infrastructure to mitigate or delay impacts."

"Think about relocating people in low-lying properties to the high country around Suma Park."

"Create an electricity micro grid including a community battery to take advantage of rooftop solar on unoccupied holiday homes. Be Australia's first municipality to run on renewable energy!"

"Build a wind farm at Swan Bay (around where Basil's Farm is) to power the Borough and surrounds. It's very windy here and Daylesford has had great success with theirs."

"Reclaim the beach. Vegetation overtaking the foreshore reserve beaches."

"Education- All stakeholders need to be on board and the way forward is for all to learn about impacts of Climate Change and what they can do as an individual and as a collective."

"A vision of people happily walking or cycling (with the option to take a frequent local electric mini-bus) to local garden/vegetable swap/trade centre to drop off items to be re-used. Walking amongst safe paths on shady light forest of local trees with small flowering shrubs and wildflowers along the way (no lawns or mowing) past a few local shops and cafes to a beach that is much the same as we have now, except the cliffs are covered in local plants with birds nesting and small lizards basking in dappled sun."

"Let's become a carbon neutral community, let's lead Australia and be creative in our response to the climate emergency. Let's have a wind turbine & solar farm. Let's grow a kelp forest and teach our children about regenerative farming."

"Passive house design - Council insisting that all new houses are oriented on the block and built to take advantage of the sun and wind to keep reliance on electricity and gas to a minimum."

"Monitoring and data collection on the changing natural environment."

"Greater use of solar power, electric vehicles."

"Develop a Borough-wide, community owned renewable energy body that generates sustainable energy for the community, even in peak tourist seasons."

Interest in zero carbon and renewable initiatives

Respondents were asked what goal our community should set to become zero-carbon. In response, **69% of respondents said we should set a goal of becoming a zero carbon community by 2031 or earlier**. Only 9% of respondents said we shouldn't set a zero carbon goal at all.

Respondents were also asked what goal Council specifically should set to become carbon neutral across its operations. **62% of respondents said Council should set a goal to become carbon-neutral by 2025 or earlier**. Only 9% of respondents said Council should set no goal at all.

Respondents were also asked whether they would be willing to invest financially in a community-owned renewable energy initiative. **85% of the 165 respondents who answered this question indicated they would be interested in doing so**.

Overall, respondents tended to feel that goals should be set for our community to become zero-carbon, and that those goals should be within the next decade. Many respondents were willing to invest financially in initiatives to achieve this goal.

Other notes on the results

A large number of respondents skipped one or more core questions in completing the survey, rising to as high as 41% of respondents skipping some open-ended questions. While this doesn't affect the quality of the data, care should be taken in attempting to determine absolute values from the percentages reported in the survey.

It is also worth noting that a small minority of responses (as high as 12% in some questions) consistently expressed disagreement with the project overall throughout the survey. This ranged from expressing a disagreement with the urgency of the response to a belief that climate change is not occurring at all. While these responses have been retained and considered alongside other feedback, debate on the existence of climate change falls outside the scope of this project.

Queenscliffe Climate Emergency Response Plan

School student workshop

19th October 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	1
INTRODUCTION	3
Workshop purpose	3
Workshop Participation	3
FAVOURITE PLACES	4
CONNECTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE	4
Why did you attend today?	4
What do you know about the environment in the area?	4
VISION FOR THE FUTURE	5
ACTIONS	6
FEEDBACK	7

INTRODUCTION

On October 19th 2020, 12 primary school students from the Borough of Queenscliffe area participated in a workshop to give their ideas regarding what they would like to see in the Climate Emergency Response Plan for the Borough.

The workshop was conducted to hear the views of young members of the Borough of Queenscliffe community. The results of the workshop will be submitted to a community panel in November to consider along with community survey results and any other information gathered through the 'wider engagement phase'. The panel will be empowered to shape a Climate Emergency Response Plan that is reflective of the community partnering with Council in response to the remit question; What ambitious local action are we prepared to take together to protect our community and the special places we love?

This report has been produced by independent facilitation team MosaicLab and is a compilation of what was said during the school students' workshop.

WORKSHOP PURPOSE

As part of the wider engagement plan to gather community input, this workshop aimed to engage school aged community members to generate and prioritise ideas for action in response to the climate emergency.

WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

This workshop was attended by 12 students between the ages of 10 – 12 from three different schools: Queenscliff Primary School, Point Lonsdale Primary School and St Aloysius Primary School.

The participants were:

Oscar	Billy	Leah
Virginia	Henry	Sanne
Tessa	Liv	Nina
Tom	Lachlan	Greta

From:

Queenscliff Primary School	6
Point Lonsdale Primary School	5
St Aloysius Primary School	1

The workshop was also attended by:

Jessica Connor Kennedy	Facilitator
Noa Levin	Facilitator
Martin Gill	CEO, Borough of Queenscliffe (observer)
Rebecca Petit-Bramwell	Project Officer- Climate Emergency Response Plan, Borough of Queenscliffe (observer)

FAVOURITE PLACES

The participants were asked to name a favourite place in nature they enjoy close to where they live.

Front Beach **Squid Park** **Whinbury Hill riding trails** **Ocean Grove Bay**
The beach **Moonah trees** **YouYangs mountain bike paths**
Back Beach **Swan Bay** **Bright Mountain Bike paths**

CONNECTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Participants were invited to use the online tool GroupMap to capture their responses to the following questions, which established their connection to the topic and what they already knew about it.

WHY DID YOU ATTEND TODAY?

I want to learn about the Queenscliff environment
I wanted to come because I love and care about the environment and fauna that lives here!
I think it is a great opportunity and I would like to make a difference
I wanted to come to learn more about the Queenscliff environment and how I can help it
So I could give and hear ideas
To learn more about the environment and what I can do to prevent climate change
We wanted to come today because we are passionate about learning about the environment and how we can help climate change
To learn more about climate change
I think it is a really great experience and it would have been a wasted opportunity if I didn't join

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE AREA?

There is a nature reserve which is home to a lot of plants and birds
Man made things and rubbish
Wondering about the road out of Queenscliff. Would it get water over it due to climate change in 50 years time?
There are lots of beaches nearby, so it is extra bad if you litter

We know that we live near a marine national park
I know that we have a wetland sanctuary for the migrating birds
A lot of man-made tracks
I know that across the road from us is a lake that is home to some swans and other birds that live in trees in the lake
In Geelong there is a lot of litter, litter in Queenscliff area would go to Swan Bay
There are lots of man-made lakes and bike tracks that have lots of rubbish
It's unique and beautiful
That it is on the edge of a RAMSAR site important for birds from the Northern Hemisphere
We know that near our homes there are a lot of man-made bike tracks

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Participants were asked to imagine what their best future would look like in 20 to 30 years from now. They responded to four prompts: On the **streets**, at the **beach**, in **community spaces**, and in **other places nearby**.

At the beach
'No Littering' signs on the beach
Cleaner beaches
No strangled fish in the sea from rubbish
Should be less rubbish
Build a bike rack so bikes aren't left up against the rocks

On the streets
No litter on the street
Cleaner streets
Community gardens on our streets, for us to collaborate and build/grow gardens together
At the supermarket, we can get rid of the amount of packaging
Shouldn't litter on the streets

In other places nearby
No litter around Lake Lorne
Many empty lots with machines around. I would rather this be a nice natural environment where animals can come and live
The Point: New houses being built which isn't good for the environment. Some of the lots should be bought by the Borough of Queenscliffe and used to plant trees
Aquaponics
Swan Bay to be clean and beautiful with healthy water
No litter around Lake Lorne

In community spaces
More visible bans on littering; letting people know what the rules are
In the park, we can put an orchid for the community
Veggie gardens at our parks
Rubbish bins and a lot less rubbish
Really healthy parks
Nice healthy trees that are in good shape to climb

ACTIONS

The participants split into two smaller groups, and spent time imagining they were in charge of the Borough of Queenscliffe. With this in mind they were invited to suggest ideas for actions that could practically serve to reduce the impacts of climate change.

After grouping similar ideas together, participants had three votes to put towards the idea or ideas that were the most important to them.

Action title	Grouped ideas	No. of votes
Using renewable energy	Encourage people to go solar Encouraging people to use renewable energy Solar Panels Using renewable energy Create a wind farm to have our own electricity like Daylesford - they generate energy for their town	6
Planting more trees and plants	Plant native plants around to take in CO2 carbon dioxide, Planting more trees	4
Education in schools about littering, climate change, and what happens if we don't protect our environment. Student can encourage families to make changes.		4
School rubbish program	Whole school clean ups at the end of the week Encourage people to have rubbish-free lunches (e.g. nude food; school competitions)	3
Reusable containers (bio containers) and reusable bags (e.g. to get fruit)	IGA could have glass bottles for soft drink and water instead of plastic - refillable bottles Supermarket - BYO containers – e.g. scoop out flour into your own container sugar etc	2
Make litter-proof drain covers so rubbish doesn't go into ocean		2
Eating less meat	Encourage people to go vegan Go vegan/vegetarian Create an Instagram page by Council #meatless Mondays and people could take a picture of their meal without meat because I know that would reduce greenhouse gases	1

Community gardens and aquaponics	Encourage people to start their own gardens so they don't need to go to supermarket Have a community garden, aquaponics	1
Community produce store where the community can sell e.g. jams, cakes, pickles, honey, bread, veggies, fruit (kind of like the tomato farm)		1
Ban single use plastic in Queenscliff		1

The following ideas were suggested by participants, but did not receive any votes as their 'most important'.

Action title
Create a goal rather than just ideas
At supermarkets, people could have a limited amount of meat to buy and other things, so people don't use too much of things you need
Put up posters to encourage people to stop littering, including showing examples of what damage litter does
More rubbish bins for the public
Turn off lights if not in rooms (especially at school)
Using less cars
More signs to stop littering
Stop building houses on Swan Marsh

FEEDBACK

Participants were asked to reflect on how they felt the session went in the Zoom chat at the conclusion of the session. The responses were as follows:

It was fantastic! I really enjoyed it!
I learnt heaps!
Thanks, I loved it
Same that was SO Fun!
Thank you soooooo MUCH





REPORT PREPARED BY:

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PLEASE NOTE: While every effort has been made to transcribe participants comments accurately a small number may not have been included in this summary due to the legibility of the content. Please contact Jessica Connor Kennedy at jessica@mosaiclab.com.au for any suggested additions.

This report has been prepared by MosaicLab on behalf of and for the exclusive use of the Queenscliffe Climate Emergency Response Plan project working group. The sole purpose of this report is to provide a summary of stakeholder feedback provided during the workshop in October.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the scope of services set out by the Borough of Queenscliffe. In preparing this report, MosaicLab has relied upon the information provided by the participants at the workshops. The Borough of Queenscliffe can choose to share and distribute this report as they see fit. MosaicLab accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever for or in respect of any use of or reliance upon this report by any third party.

MosaicLab is a Victorian-based consultancy that specialises in community & stakeholder engagement, facilitation, negotiation, strategic planning and coaching.

Appendix 1: Survey data

Q13 What is your big idea to positively address the Climate Emergency in the Borough?

The below comments are copied verbatim from community submissions in response to this question. The comments do not represent an official position of the Borough of Queenscliffe. Two comments have been modified to remove inappropriate language.

Reinstalling the 7 Gryones on the point Lonsdale front beach, assisting with households with converting to solar energy, sustainable population growth by increasing the size of minimal blocks, weekly green waste collection,

Commit to and promote renewable energy use and rapidly phase out fossils fuels and plant indigenous plants.

Solar panels on all homes

Run the entire Borough from renewable energy source(s)

Personally I'm not much of a creative thinker, but I do respond to others!! My big idea would be to re-watch 2040 and identify how many of Damon Gameau's amazing examples we can put into place here in the Borough.

Develop a Borough-wide, community owned renewable energy body that generates sustainable

energy for the community, even in peak tourist seasons.

protect our existing parklands/coastal reserves/open spaces by planting more trees and vegetation cover, also going solar (all Council owned buildings and other large buildings could be converted including battery storage)

That everyone watches David Attenboroughs' A life on this planet' so that people would realise it is a problem and that we need to get on with it

Ensuring we educate community about recycling/ reducing and reusing. Start in the home and it filters into everyday life of using sustainable practices.

Replanting vegetation (along dunes to help erosion).

Keep a green belt between ocean grove and point lonsdale.

Walking tracks in bush land to encourage people to immerse themselves in nature. Having a love of this beautiful environment assists people to look after it. Ownership of it.

Educate Local people - on how the way they are living is creating a climate crisis.

Council and Community make a big and urgent push on increasing the use of renewable energy in the borough

Council to adopt plant based meals for all borough functions. Inform and Encourage everyone to adopt plant based food - free vegan cooking classes sponsored by citizens and council.

Not a big idea just want to see ongoing sustained action and the issue maintaining a high priority

Ensure the mitigation of climate change is taken into account with all council decisions and to promote our successes in the wider community to ensure other councils and level of government adopt similar actions.

Convert to renewable energy sources (wind, sola, wave, swell), improve public transport to remove car dependence, introduces strong requirements for energy efficient buildings, including retrofitting, provide financial and other incentives for people to favour smaller, better designed homes that use less energy to build and run, confine housing and other development to existing town boundaries; strongly promote reuse and recycle of 'waist'.

Examine what works in other coastal areas, what would work in our environment

The generation of electricity using the tidal flows of water at the "creek" or "cut" at the Queenscliff Harbour, to provide electricity to the local residents and businesses. This is a unique opportunity that can set us apart from other solar/ wind systems. Possibly quite expensive but certainly worth detailed investigation.

Set municipal emissions reduction target and get community engaged to achieve rapid decarbonisation

think local: reduce emissions: shop local, buy local, holiday local, support all local initiatives to reduce carbon emissions. Hold free community film viewings of David Attenborough's Witness Statement and ensure our schools view it also.

Reinstate the train to Geelong. Make it a new modern one powered by renewables. Federal labor

govt is promising to start the manufacture of trains in Australia. Let's get one to service our community utilising the existing rail line infrastructure.

Campaign to Fed govt

Bulk solar purchase

Use solar and wind to provide most of the energy the borough needs

A system of local carbon credits that goes toward funding substantive local initiatives to improve local: production of food. generation of renewable energy. renewable forms of transport

To examine other country's, who lead in this, strategies and see if we can apply them to the Queenscliffe Borough AND Bring along Geelong Council with us by setting an example.

To encourage people to greatly reduce their red meat intake

all plans for development in the borough must consider the impact on climate.

Our environment must be protected.

development must be sustainable.

Develop a detailed plan to reduce emissions by council and the community in all key areas

Increased solar energy output.

I would like for the Borough to be self sufficient in energy. My big idea is to generate power in "the cut" to provide enough power for the whole community

Create our own sustainable power, food and wellbeing. Sustainable energy, such as solar, being the number 1 priority.

Have the message of potential climate change impact delivered to a community by a world renowned expert

Greater use of solar power, electric vehicles

I think people need to learn how to start simply by learning to recycle their rubbish properly, maybe a "how to" letter in the mail or something so everyone understands how to use their bins properly or local recycling spots (batteries, soft plastics at woolies ect)

introduce a progressive ban in the Borough on fossil fuel powered domestic and business machines such as lawn mowers, blowers and chain saws. There are plenty of electric and battery alternatives now available to replace these very polluting and noisy devices. Perhaps it would encourage other councils around the country to start doing simple but practical stuff

Investment in a whole of borough renewable energy approach- sun, wind, learn from others who are already doing it, looking at battery storage.

Introduce sustainable design principles to the planning scheme and to specific design overlays

The question should not be what MY big idea is. The Council needs to establish a process to identify what actions will have the most beneficial impact. This requires a formal business plan which incorporates an options analysis phase.

Revegetation. Less asphalt and concrete, more vegetation

Let's position ourselves as an example for other governments, of what can be done to limit the degree

of climate change and improve the general health of the natural environment.

Protect the dunes and return signage and fencing

Ensure all development meets a 7 star rating minimum scope into renovations. More actions to protect wildlife we have no idea of the true impact of loss of species.

To protect the remaining wildness that exists here and encourage a regenerating and replanting to encourage the local species - both animals and plant life.

To get the Borough of the grid by generating our own renewable energy - be it through a community owned micro grid or incentives to use existing roof spaces with a battery that can store it all. An amazing way to bring the community together to combat our biggest source of emissions: electricity.

Reduce our reliance on petrol vehicles through: Making it easy to own an electric vehicle Much better public transport options Making it difficult to use a petrol car in the Borough (reduced parking options)

Monitoring and data collection on the changing natural environment

"Emergency" Lowering the bushfire risk and provision of a well understood evacuation plan in case of extreme fire event.

Accept that the BoQ cannot change the future alone, so design infrastructure to mitigate or delay impacts

Make our towns completely self sustaining. With permaculture gardens, zero waste and renewable energy sources 😊

Take advantage of the Boroughs small size & geographical location to become energy self sufficient through solar or wind technology.

To address energy and/or water security of the Borough, and to become self-sufficient by installing a wind and/or solar farm and a desalination plant on Swan Island. Supported by external redundancy by on-call emergency connection.

Live life with out unjust fear from the scare mongering

Everyone needs to be part of the solution, even if it's a small contribution.

Leave it to Canberra

Invest in programs to run through School, bringing education for all through our children

Community renewable energy source eg TRY Totally Renewable Yackandandah

Elect a pro active council for the Borough of Queenscliff

Advocate with other G21 Councils to state and particularly federal government who are not taking this issue seriously enough. I think mobilizing communities to raise awareness and place more political pressure is key.

Start stopping erosion and yearly trimming of trees and shrubs in bush areas

Investigate making the Borough self sufficient in energy production by possible use of wind farms and solar. Look at other towns which have done this eg Daylesford

encourage citizen science and a portal where people can record their observations. The big problem with climate change is its not a single event (like a bushfire or flood) - so the more we can document and demonstrate the effects it is having on our community the more we can engage people to become aware and involved in solutions.

Better public transport and banning cars in peak season

Formulate a practical plan together and act immediately

Harness alternative sources of energy. Wind, solar etc.

We are obviously a small community but would have a huge voice if we were ground breaking with our decision making on this issue. Making our community self sufficient with renewable energy would be amazing.

To address energy and/or water security of the Borough, and to become self-sufficient, by installing a wind and/or solar farm and a desalination plant on Swan Island.

2 Main ideas: 1.Community owned renewable energy project or council/community bulk-buying solar energy. 2. Biosequestration: Nature based solution to climate change. Protection and restoration of coastal wetland habitats in the borough. Research has shown that coastal wetlands; sea-grass, saltmarshes and mangroves in Victoria and New South Wales store 36,000 tonnes of CO2 per year, equivalent to removing 7,826 cars from our roads. Deakin universities Blue Carbon lab run by Dr Peter Macreadie is a world leader in this research. Deakin

university is located right here in Queenscliff at the Victorian Governments Queenscliff Centre. We have a fantastic opportunity to partner with them on innovative programs. Where we could increase the sequestration of carbon from the atmosphere and reduce the carbon emissions from the borough.

Reduce emissions

Being part of the global solution, not a bystander

Plant more indigenous trees and plants throughout the Borough - in public spaces and in peoples' private gardens - to help sequester carbon in the soil. This has the added benefits of trees/plants growing well where they're meant to grow thus requiring little water/care to flourish, helping with temperature regulation of the land, increasing habitat for indigenous birds/animals, and increasing the natural beauty in the area.

Crazy Idea - The Borough Tube (not an underground one!) What: a hyper-local public transport system using electric vehicles that can carry 12-20 people at a time. The objective would be that each 'stop' is within a two minute walk of every resident. It would need to be highly frequent and reliable running on a loop (or series of loops) much like the city circle tram - hop on hop off. Why: a) to reduce emissions from short-trip car journeys, b) to provide a much needed transport option for elderly and disabled residents, c) to allow more parking space to be given to climate-positive, people-oriented uses (parks, dining etc.) d) as a tourism drawcard connecting the harbour/ferry, hesse and lonsdale streets etc. e) as a mode that connects people through routine and shared access, f) to prevent congestion in peak periods and allow easier access to other forms of active transport like

cycling and walking. How: possible option... a) a private entity owns/leases the assets and council contracts the provision of the service (a la regular public transport services and state governments). The ongoing costs of electric vehicles are minimal and these would be touted as emission free. The pitch to council - so justify the expenditure of service provisioning - would be savings in road degradation, additional parking space that could be activated by businesses on a permit basis, public health benefit in that many residents may walk one way knowing they can get the 'tube' home.

A proposal to the state government for a solar farm that can provide renewable energy for the entire borough. Rough stats - a farm producing 6MW can provide ample energy for 3250 houses and would require 12.5 acres of land. The small size of Queenscliffe as a borough means that it has an opportunity to undertake a project like this and become a leader in sustainable energy state/nation-wide.

Become independent of power from fossil fuels.

Implement a range of doable projects - put all electrical wires underground, all residences to have water tanks, better waste management. Fence off coastal areas that are under threat from erosion and begin plantings.

Everyone taking small and achievable steps towards the bigger picture

Limit tidal flow through the heads and therefore water levels, by sinking some old ships in the deepest part of the Rip

Free energy efficiency program for all homeowners and borough residents. Residential energy usage is our largest emission source, so in addition to renewable energy, let's focus on reducing energy use in the first place

Look to the Dutch on how to hold back the sea in all the flood prone areas, restrict vegetation clearing by developers, restrict developers, change the present Liberal government, encourage sustainable building measures in old, established and new buildings and developments, have more female representation in decision making

Educate people more about energy saving and the advantages of renewables.

Reduce use of fossil fuels i.e. gas and coal to limit emissions. Look into alternative source predominately heating (cooling is covered by solar panels.) Also water harvesting with information and discussions about water tanks and once again collective buying power to keep costs low.

Grey water from houses articulated for gardens and storm water harvested to irrigate public gardens.

Borough being framed as a 'green' community - community garden, plant based eating, protect habitat such as wetlands and grassland

Passive house design - Council insisting that all new houses are oriented on the block and built to take advantage of the sun and wind to keep reliance on electricity and gas to a minimum.

Rebawable energy system

Set a new ambitious target for Council and the Borough to achieve carbon net-zero emissions

2 ideas: 1. Community bulk-buying of solar energy or community-owned renewable energy. 2. Protection and rehabilitation of our coastal and marine ecosystems to increase the boroughs Carbon sink capacity and enhance biodiversity.

Pay attention to science and not commerce. Listen to David Attenborough.

Dont vote for the **** liberal party or the clowns in the national party is the first thing we can all do. the second would be to educate our school kids so they are in a better position to create a better world and fix some of our mistakes

Simply to be conscious of everything we do.

Not sure that 'one big idea' is the solution, but that Council work with the community to develop a coordinated approach to the looming climate emergency...which hopefully is precisely what will be the outcome of this current process.

I don't have a "big" idea but I'd hope to see individuals and families embrace lifestyle changes and businesses and organisations move to more environmentally sustainable practices

Establishment and action to achieve a zero or negative output of carbon emissions by the council and community by 2025

My dream is for us to become a self-sustaining community in terms of food and other essentials.

Doing everything we can to reduce emissions - Being a leader in Australia in regard to the practices we implement.

Green Power - Our own Power Station (Solar, Wind or Combination), possibly situated on Swan Island? -

Model like Daylesford example where the plant would be community owned and operated, and generate more power than our municipality needs. And then if we could make a plastic recycler that turns states plastic into take Away Coffee cups so the Borough does away with disposable coffee cups..... :)

The Borough becomes carbon neutral by 2030 or earlier

Actively lobby government at all levels to take issue seriously.

Community campaign for people to understand their personal carbon footprint

Australians on average produce 2.5 times people in the UK but we are not told the truth that we are one of the highest GHG producing nations on earth. It starts with personal responsibility and that starts with knowing the truth.

Let's become a carbon neutral community, let's lead Australia and be creative in our response to the climate emergency. Let's have a wind turbine & solar farm. Let's grow a kelp forest and teach our children about regenerative farming.

Keep asking kids what they think

Reduce emissions by more rooftop solar PV, increase storage through community batteries and more solar water (PV or heat pumps), fuel switch to electric for hot water and air con, optimise energy efficiencies in new and existing buildings and equipment, encourage walking/biking/local public transport, procure electric vehicles and start to set up infrastructure, planting & planting

I think that the management of storm water so that there is no pollution into the ocean, that water is captured and reused, that houses become much more self sufficient with water use

Solar panels and batteries for all community facilities, schools, Bellarine Community Health sites etc

Immediate planning for a levee bank on the railway embankment and other at risk areas.

stop encouraging more and more tourism. There is no benefit to our environment of more and more people and more and more cars. It equals more waste and more pollution!

Collect the facts and educate the residents about what they can do in a practical way

As David Attenborough has said in his latest documentary - we need to focus on re-wilding. Decreasing our impacts as a race. We need to look beyond growing and growing impactful tourism and business to work out ways to have a no growth economy that functions well for all residents - human and the natural biodiversity. We need to work at smaller footprints rather than building over more and more of what is left. Any area that has some remnant of natural systems should be kept and no- go zones created. The village in the natural landscape with areas devoted to human use and others set aside for rewilding.

The Borough to harness natural resources in order to energy independent.

Work towards a carbon neutral borough.

Reduce the use of fossil fuel in lawn mowing/labour costs throughout the borough by replacing some

formal grassed areas with native grasslands which will be self-maintaining.

Use our technical know-how to harness the available renewable energy sources to significantly reduce our use of fossil fuels. eg Wind-Generation, wave/tidal energy, public solar collectors and battery storage

Alternative energy

Carbon neutral emissions from Borough across all measures

Additional charge to start to build and protect infrastructure

1. Reach out to all the other coastal communities around Australia to establish an Australian Coastal Communities Collective or similar (if it doesn't already exist) to make a united voice with say 3 key strategic objectives 2. Establish a mentor mentee program whereby older people link with 20somethings who are sad and disenfranchised as they believe older people don't care about their future. Help instill optimism by showing them we do care and we have resources and connections who can be mobilised to assist them in the cause of protecting their future.

Change the outlook on how the community views where to buy things (local=less carbon footprint) Consider the source of your items, we are the contributors. Corporations have nothing without the consumer, we have the power to only choose sustainable goods. This demands that other corporations do the same. STOP SUPPORTING THESE INDUSTRIES

Becoming a net zero community...by 2031.

Achieved via a community and council owned, multi pronged renewable energy project which included roof top solar, storage facilities (batteries), wind and/or solar farms.....BUT also included an innovative, bold and world leading project that harnessed the power of the enormous tidal currents that surround the Borough.

I feel that many residents in the Borough have an appetite for something innovative and bold....which sets us apart from others. We have an amazing opportunity!

It would be wonderful to see more renewable energy projects within the borough. Not sure how feasible it is, but could we investigate community owned renewable projects (e.g., Daylesford)?

This Borough has a great opportunity to lead by example with the use of renewable energy sources as community powered solar or wind options plus storage.

A vision of people happily walking or cycling (with the option to take a frequent local electric mini-bus) to local garden/vegetable swap/trade centre to drop off items to be re-used. Walking amongst safe paths on shady light forest of local trees with small flowering shrubs and wildflowers along the way (no lawns or mowing) past a few local shops and cafes to a beach that is much the same as we have now, except the cliffs are covered in local plants with birds nesting and small lizards basking in dappled sun.

More solar panel initiatives, planting more trees in common areas. Encouraging renewable energy for everyone. Recycling as much as possible, including soft plastics.

I can't say I have the solution to a problem I only just found out existed. Perhaps educating the public and creating awareness on the issue by doing things such as this survey would be a good start.

Use of renewable energy for every house in the Borough

I would like the council to become an active advocate at MAV and state government areas to take climate change seriously.

Protect the natural environment and biodiversity in the area from development. Increase public transport. Use renewable energy wherever possible. Educate residents on what small lifestyle changes they can make that help make a positive difference to addressing climate change and help them be able to make those changes easily. E.g. diet and agriculture a huge carbon footprint, encourage cafes and restaurants to provide more plant-based meals so the more planet-friendly options are available.

Planting trees for habitat

To establish the Borough as a globally recognised precinct for excellence in local community climate change action and that the Borough explore the possibility of an alliance with the Greater Geelong City in the pursuit of that goal.

Make actionable changes

Carbon neutral by 2022

To continue the rock wall from Lonnie to cottage by the sea

solar and planting roadside verges

to construct a structure from the 'dog beach to the Qcliff lookout' to arrest erosion of this area. Create a

walking path along this area which will take some foot traffic off the beach. Create walking paths through shrub areas which would assist with in maintaining overgrowth which causes fire hazards.

Education- All stakeholders need to be onboard and the way forward is for all to learn about impacts of Climate Change and what they can do as an individual and as a collective.

Raising awareness across all demographics so that climate change is an issue that all demographics can identify with so that they are all pressuring the people in charge to make meaningful change

Carbon Net Zero or Carbon positive (Climate Positive)

Invite and encourage creative climate innovations. For example, removing air pollutions, Converse has announced they are erecting murals around Australia with paint that had photosynthesis like qualities that extract pollutants from the air.

I think the borough can be Australia's example. If this doesn't work then changing business and residents will have minimal impact. We need the country to change. There's a chance that if mainstream media jump on board that it may just happen.

Sensible waste disposal/recycling programs

Look at powering the Borough with renewable energy, as Daylesford has with wind power.

Whole borough achieving net zero emissions through the Renewables - primarily using turbine in the creek or something of the likes.

Reclaim the beach. Vegetation overtaking the foreshore reserve beaches.

Reduce building & road traffic. Increase solar. Maybe ask members of the Climate group to give up their 4WDs before they complain about single use coffee cups!

I think it is simple. We should be an example to every community around the world. Become Carbon neutral, completely renewable, zero waste. We are small size, it's possible.

The borough achieves a local sustainable power source that equals or exceeds the entire energy use of the borough.

Plan to control inundation.....

Don't wait for or use COVID as an excuse to take action NOW; Maybe identify a street, or neighbourhood group that works on given activity that takes informs, supports and includes all views Identify a one WIN action across the Borough and promote widely so there is Pride in Place and wanting to BELONG

Zero emissions through renewable energy.

Get to zero emissions as fast as possible by taking big action on producing our own electricity using localised renewable energy sources.

Coastal erosion and sea level rise seems to be the main thing to be working on. We need to collaborate with/ see what other communities/countries that are already experiencing coastal flooding - we need to learn from those already there. It is difficult to pick one idea without knowing where the Borough is in the risk register, and what what/where/when the actual risks are reported to be.

Electricity use and power creation/storage needs attention statewide. Also waste management and recycling.

A well researched statement drawing on all available studies and data to give a clear idea in plain language what climate/enviroment challenges are coming our way with appropriate time lines.

Creation of a borough/borough citizen owned renewable energy source that creates enough power to cover all of the commercial and residential needs of the community (solar, wind or other).

Industrial composting facility for cafes/businesses and potentially residents, compost to be used locally for gardens, creating a closed loop. Perhaps council employed compost workers to tend to peoples home composting or some centralised points where people can contribute

Get your State & Federal government to work together to come up with a coordinated plan

Build a wind farm at Swan Bay (around where Basil's Farm is) to power the Borough and surrounds. It's very windy here and Daylesford has had great success with theirs.

Reduce the amount of foliage along foreshore (given prevailing southerly wind) and other high density foliage areas - without impacting enjoyment of citizens

No big ideas

Change at a local level is important, but big changes need to take place at a federal government level. We need to join forces with every council in Victoria and

take a stand by making a commitment to and advocating for real action by the federal government.

coordinate with other local councils around Port Phillip Bay to address the issue of beach erosion

Keep abreast as what the borough is doing

Reduce our household rubbish (and hence CO2 emissions) by reusing and recycling within our own Borough.

written response to be submitted

I don't think we are big enough, only 2000 people.

keep and improve the health of our natural environment

Make the borough carbon neutral.

I want us to strive to become totally driven by renewable energy and to make a name for ourselves for our innovation in setting up a microgrid for our borough's power needs where local renewable energy sources keep our town running.

The borough to be proactive in introducing safe bicycle lanes in township and on highway leading in to queenscliff Increase quality of life Increase tourism Increases safety Reduces omissions

Trees and dune care, the impact on the dunes is relentless and getting worse

Worked towards Renewable Energy and home battery installations

Begin buying out private properties at most risk from sea level rise.

100% renewable energy for the entire borough even if this means solar panels somewhere else to provide for all of us.

Ban plastic serving things from supermarkets, food places, restaurants etc. ban all plastic straws, bags, plates, takeaway, shopping, knives and forks, styrofoam containers, plastic containers. Post Covid please ban coffee cups!

Put up signs supporting 3 for the sea, showing large fines for climbing on dunes or littering or not picking up dog poo (I have a dog, it's not that hard).

Get rid of that new ferry terminal idea. It's a joke. We don't need it.

Council targeting weeds and rewarding positive sustainable growth and behaviour.

Get a train back to Queenscliff

Controlled burns of the vegetation along the coastline from Point Lonsdale to Queenscliff. This will reduce fuel loads and promote healthy growth.

possibly the only threat is fire so clear some of the trees in old pt. lonsdale.

It's a small thing but we must stop using biodegradable dog poop bags and change to compostable bags!!! The micro plastic through biodegradable bags does so much damage to our oceans, us and fish and birds.

manage global population, waste minimization and recycling, energy conservation (use less)

Make sure the actions are framed so that climate deniers or those that do see the urgency for action, still see the strategies as beneficial.

Create an electricity micro grid including a community battery to take advantage of rooftop solar on unoccupied holiday homes. Be Australia's first municipality to run on renewable energy!

Introduce a plan to implement a Borough-wide zero waste and zero emissions target so that the Borough is dark green and a zero carbon community.

reduce the destruction of the coastal biodiversity

The Borough becoming totally renewable similar to Yackandandah

as advised i do not believe there is a problem

Wouldn't go as far as to say I have a big idea, certainly not a new one, but we should all be moving to renewable energy

Prepare for the long term future by being prepared to adapt to new situations - NOT trying to keep things as they are now

awareness to demand political action

Drop the whole concept. Cannot be a local council issue. If it exists, too big an issue for the Borough

Think about relocating people in low-lying properties to the high country around Suma Park.

Stop indoctrinating the young with climate falsehoods based on incorrect evidence and socialist left ideology

1. A comprehensive collation to a single reference available to the community as a resource; of the present Borough policies, strategies, resources (staffing and fiscal) applied presently across the Borough that are related to issues and matters of the identity of local Climate Change, measurement of

local impacts of climate change. 2. From that resource the community enact a comprehensive prioritized Council forward plan of KP achievement points on mitigation to the climate change impacts ; to be enacted over multiple Council Election periods.

Clean up undergrowth in point lonsdale it's a big fire hazard and front beach at Queenscliff also

Improved Recycling

Lobby Federal and State government to adopt renewable resources and continue to attend future forums on climate emergency

I am not sure that this is a problem amenable to one 'big' idea, nor that it is helpful to think of it in those terms. I suspect we need lots of internally consistent little but practical ideas.

Take local actions that we control

There is no climate emergency. Climate change will continue to occur over the decades. Stop wasting your's and my time

Be aware of policies adapted by areas most prone to possible climate change.

1. Bushfire mitigation by better and more thorough maintenance of public spaces adjacent to residences, and particularly the boundary of the High School site
2. Banning the distribution of advertising material to letterboxes!

Sack the council for wasting money on such *****

do the best we can to reduce our carbon output

COUNCIL: Take the Borough off the grid! By: researching opportunities for the installation of banks of solar panels and batteries in or close to the

Borough. Researching installation of charging stations for electric cars. Researching the possibility of developing the generation of power from the tide under the bridge to Swan island. Researching better public transport options within and without the Borough. Researching the need for mitigation actions in the Borough. Seek and applying for relevant grants to support the above work.

COMMUNITY: Support the Borough in the above by forming sub committees to : Support investigation of the above issues. Keep the community informed of the progress and actions being taken. Educate the community about climate change.

inform the community about the availability of grants for decreasing the carbon output from their own homes.

Park all visitors cars outside the borough and use electric buses to bring people in- to walk around (as in Oxford UK)

Closely monitor the temperature of the sea , trends of changes of climate and erosion of foreshore etc. The existing Light Houses could ""house"" this climate changing equipment and volunteers could be taught how to operate such equipment. Retired people could also be a valuable source of volunteers.

Renewables, EVs

I don't think it was a sound decision to declare a climate emergency.

I don't profess to have a big idea, sorry. I would start by looking at how other local governments and communities have addressed climate issues. The Mornington Peninsula Shire recently published a Climate Emergency Response Plan which is an

excellent example. They are a much bigger geographical area, but their Plan may contain things that could be useful for the Borough.

Council and community join together to purchase suitable farm land to develop a solar farm, all persons have the opportunity to have shares in the purchase and development and to get an appropriate amount of free power according to the shareholding.

Renewable energy use by all residents and businesses
STOP!

Beach sand renourishment

There is no emergency, try using common sense, stop terrifying our children with needless teaching, get off the green wagon. Clear undergrowth.

Change the Federal government

Either stop the Governments selling coal to China, and associated carbon restraints, or build a very solid wall along the beach. Not so desirable anyway?

Accept that the sea levels will likely rise regardless of global action and start planning a staged approach to providing new infrastructure rather than wait until it is too late (and expensive)

Fire risk mitigation and bush care

I don't believe we have a climate em

I want Council to quantify any risk.

First , I'd like it to be expressed more clearly

Try and slow the down the growth, less growth less impact on the climate.

Incrased tree planting of native species and eradication of weeds

No need for a "big idea".

Fix the sand at Point Lonsdale front beach long term AND maintain it!!!

Installation of Renewable energies reflecting innovative projects such as ENOVA (Byron Bay Industry estate).

Support for solar energy - houses/farm. Water usage plan - more tanks

I think that Climate Emergency is too strong a term at this time.

Don't do it

We cant really have a major influence on global climate but we can make a contribution

Queenscliff should join the forum of other coastal councils to help co ordinate it's response. The National Seachange Taskforce is such a body and has sponsored research which will help coastal councils in approaching federal and state hives for funding

Stop giving the developers what they want. Give the point more of a unique place to live with the houses put on decent land sizes, so roofs do not touch. clean up Point Lonsdale foreshore get rid of weeds and dead trees and branches.

Read books authored by those who have studied the subject.

Forget it

Influence the federal government to implement adequate policies to combat climate change

My big idea is council stick to rates roads parks and rubbish and let the states and feds take care of it! Keep amateurs out of it.

Build safe bicycle paths between the Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale townships, and the rail trail that caters for e-bikes.

Have a foreshore management committee Who would push back on those groups eroding our foreshore with random walk tracks, BMX tracks and toboggan tracks. The foreshore is our first line of defence against inundation and if the natural vegetation is destroyed so is our defence.

Control tee tree areas

Sadly, I do not believe there is any significant or effective major action that can be taken by such a small community. The impact that any action taken within the Borough might have would be almost immeasurable

plant more trees

Time to get serious and act.

Power reduction incentives for existing homes

small steps, lets get recycling right based on European ideas. Have a community shared power grid linking all solar and selling it back

Control rubbish entering water from stormwater drains. Recycle probably not commingled.

For community to have more input in decisions with council and work together.

Further work on protection from rising sea levels

Not waste more if rate payers money, when there is no real benefit.

Sea walls etc to stop erosion on our beaches. Better drainage etc to try and prevent flooding. Let's get every house on solar

A proper COM encompassing a broad range of agencies to work together with the community to protect the foreshore from vandalism, protect the native vegetation, provide amenity for passive enjoyment, monitor sea level rises, maintain the sea walls and make COGg provide rates for this as well. The Point is impacting on the borough and the Borough is being affected because no amenity is planned in the COGg. We need ovals, mountain bike areas etc to be provided by the COGg to Prevent The borough being trashed and denuded which will lead to more devastation as our climate changes.

Education with actions.... small projects to bring everyone on board as part of a broader goal perhaps.

turn lights off, no street lighting, car free days, electric autonomous vehicles to move the older demographic around